

Press Release

To: Arkansas Media
From: Robert J. Alvey, Communications Manager
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CC: Governor's Office
Date: November 13, 2000
Re: March meeting of the Authority Board of Directors

Authority Board Approves Technology Transfer Project Funding & Y2K Aid for Businesses; Network Guidelines Revisions Okayed

The Arkansas Science & Technology Authority's Board of Directors reasserted its ongoing support for Arkansas industries recently, taking action to facilitate Y2K assistance, the transfer of technology and on-site visits by Manufacturing Extension Program (Network) field engineers.

The Board approved three of four draft resolutions presented by the Industry Committee, a standing committee of the Board. Two resolutions addressed the transfer of technology through the Arkansas Manufacturing Extension Program (Network) and the Technology Transfer Assistance Grant Program (TTAG). (Visit the Network website at <http://www.state.ar.us/asta/network.html>, and the TTAG site at <http://www.state.ar.us/asta/ttag.html>.)

The Board also approved a plan unique to the Y2K issue, approving funds to assist small businesses with compliance after December 31, 1999. The program will provide funding and technical support for those businesses experiencing Y2K problems.

The Board reviews and accepts technology transfer assistance grants to state-based businesses through one of two Authority programs: the Technology Transfer Assistance Grant Program (TTAG) (<http://www.state.ar.us/asta/ttag.html>) or the Extension Network. The allocation of funds for future grants and the endorsement of recent awards are addressed during each scheduled Board of Directors meeting. During its Sept. 17 meeting, the Board acknowledged funding for the following businesses through the Network:

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| 1. | Neste Polyester, Inc., Fort Smith..... | \$3,750.00 |
| 2. | Rheem Corp., Fort Smith..... | \$3,750.00 |
| 3. | PRADCO, Fort Smith..... | \$3,750.00 |
| 4. | Mid South Roller, Clarksville | \$3,750.00 |
| 5. | Arkansas Metallurgical Laboratories, Searcy | \$2,812.50 |
| 6. | Southeast Truss, Inc., Monticello | \$3,750.00 |
| 7. | Fort Smith Rim & Bow, Fort Smith..... | \$2,500.00 |
| 8. | Oak Mountain, Inc., Pyatt | \$2,500.00 |
| 9. | Hog Eye Pallet Co., Prairie Grove | \$2,500.00 |
| 10. | Combined Products & Services, Heber Springs | \$3,750.00 |
| 11. | Trax America, Inc., Forrest City | \$2,500.00 |
| 12. | Mid South Roller, Clarksville | \$3,750.00 |
| 13. | Capital Structures, Fort Smith | \$3,750.00 |
| 14. | Calvin Alley Assoc./Ft Smith Laminating, Fort Smith | \$3,750.00 |
| 15. | B&G Wood Products, Fort Smith..... | \$3,750.00 |
| 16. | Century Flooring Co., Melbourne | \$3,750.00 |

The next scheduled Board meeting is Friday, November 19. Location and schedule details will be provided at a later date.

The Arkansas Science & Technology Authority (<http://www.state.ar.us/asta/>) serves as a statewide funding resource for high quality scientific and technological projects. The Authority endeavors to bring the benefits of science and technology to the people and state of Arkansas through scientific research, technology development, business innovation, and education.

Sept 99 Bd action/---/Communications Manager/e